



United States Courts for the Ninth Circuit

Public Information Office

David Madden, Manager • (415) 556-6177 • (415) 556-6179 fax • dmadden@ce9.uscourts.gov

NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: David Madden, (415) 556-6177

President Nominates Two to Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals

SAN FRANCISCO – The White House today announced the renomination of attorney William G. Myers III and Idaho State Court Judge N. Randy Smith to serve as judges of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Mr. Myers, who is of counsel to Holland & Hart LLP in Boise, was nominated to fill a judgeship vacant since November 14, 2003, when Circuit Judge Thomas G. Nelson of Boise assumed senior status. President Bush previously nominated Mr. Myers for the same judgeship in 2003, 2005 and earlier this year, but the nominations did not receive a vote by the full Senate.

Mr. Myers is the former solicitor for the U.S. Department of the Interior. Born in Roanoke, Virginia, he received his undergraduate degree from College of William and Mary in 1977 and his J.D. from the University of Denver College of Law in 1981. Prior to his government appointment, he was of counsel for Holland & Hart.

Judge Smith was nominated to fill a judgeship vacant since December 31, 2004, when Judge Stephen S. Trott of Boise assumed senior status in 2004. President Bush previously nominated Judge Smith for the same judgeship in 2005 and earlier this year, but the nominations did not receive a vote by the full Senate.

Judge Smith was appointed as a district judge for Idaho's Sixth Judicial District in 1995. He won reelection in 1998 and 2002. Since 2004, he has served as the court's administrative judge. Prior to coming onto the bench, he practiced as a civil litigator with the law firm of Merrill & Merrill, focusing on corporate civil litigation and insurance defense cases.

Born in Logan, Utah, Judge Smith received his B.S. degree in 1974 from Brigham Young University and his J.D. from BYU's J. Reuben Clark School of Law in 1977.

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Office of the Circuit Executive

95 Seventh St. P.O. Box 193939 San Francisco CA 94119-3939

The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals is authorized 28 active judgeships and currently has two vacancies.

The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals hears appeals of cases decided by federal trial courts or state courts in Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington, plus the U.S. Territory of Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. For fiscal year 2005, the court reported 16,037 appeals filed.

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